Statement II

Major Importers of clothing from India 1982, 1983 *and* 1984

(Provisional)

(*Value in Rs. Crores*)

Country	1982	1983	1984
U.S.A.	138·49	225·88	291·46
E.E.C.	249·13	216·71	280·94
U.S.S.R.	117·14	73·27	105·70
Canada	16·22	21·46	43·51
Japan	18·33	14·33	23·65
Switzarland	17·90	20·33	17·69
Sweden	12·88	13·20	16·03
Others	63·48	54·95	71·12
TOTAL	633·57	640·13	850·10

(SOURCE: A.E.P.C.)

Storage Capacity of the STC

*385. SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN SARING: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during June/July, 1984 the State Trading Corporation decided to cut down the storage capacity for imported edible oils;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there was depression in the international edible oil market at that time;

(c) whether in pursuance of its storage policy, the S.T.C. could not purchase/import/store edible oils in sufficient quantity during the depression period;

(d) whether it is a fact that three months thereafter the STC imported edible oils at higher prices prevailing in the international market thereby losing a huge amount in foreign exchange; and

(e) if the answer to parts (a) to (d) above be in the affirmative, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) International oil prices declined in July, 1984 and remained around that level till September, 1984 in most varieties of oil.

(c) to (e) STC purchased edible oil during July 1984 to September 1984, when the prices in most varieties of edible oils were lowest, as well as during earlier and subsequent months based on import requirements of the domestic market and no loss of foreign exchange was involved in these imports.

Racket in the Central Warehousing Corporation

*386. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appeared in the *Statesman* on the 29th